United Nations A/C.2/58/L.58

General Assembly

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10 December 2003

Original: English

Fifty-eighth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 94 (g)
Environment and sustainable development: sustainable mountain development

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairperson of the Committee, Irena Zubčević (Croatia), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/58/L.22

Sustainable development in mountain regions

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/24 of 10 November 1998, in which it proclaimed 2002 as the International Year of Mountains,

Recalling also its resolutions 55/189 of 20 December 2000 and 57/245 of 20 December 2002,

Recognizing chapter 13 of Agenda 21[1] and all relevant paragraphs of the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[2] in particular paragraph 42 thereof, as the overall policy frameworks for sustainable development in mountain regions,

Noting the International Partnership for Sustainable Development in Mountain Regions ("Mountain Partnership"), launched during the World Summit on Sustainable Development with the committed support of thirty-eight countries, fifteen intergovernmental organizations and thirty-eight organizations from major groups, as an important approach to addressing the various interrelated dimensions of sustainable development in mountain regions,

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[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[2] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

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Taking note of the Bishkek Mountain Platform,[3] the outcome document of the Bishkek Global Mountain Summit, held at Bishkek from 28 October to 1 November 2002, which was the concluding event of the International Year of Mountains,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the International Year of Mountains, 2002;[4]

2. *Welcomes* the significant results achieved during the International Year of Mountains, which substantially increased awareness of and strengthened interest in sustainable development and poverty eradication in mountain regions, as well as acting as a catalyst for long-term effective action to implement chapter 13 of Agenda 21[1] and paragraph 42 of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;[2]

3. *Notes with appreciation* that a growing network of Governments, organizations, major groups and individuals around the world know that mountains are globally important as the source of most of the Earth's freshwater, as repositories of rich biological diversity, as popular destinations for recreation and tourism and as areas of important cultural diversity, knowledge and heritage;

4. *Also notes with appreciation* the effective role played by Governments, as well as major groups, academic institutions and international organizations and agencies, in the activities related to the International Year of Mountains, including the establishment of seventy-eight national committees or similar mechanisms;

5. *Appreciates* the work undertaken by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations as the lead agency for the International Year of Mountains, as well as the valuable contributions made by the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations University, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Children's Fund;

6. *Underlines* that there remain key challenges to implementing sustainable development and eradicating poverty in mountain regions, as well as challenges in the areas of national involvement, international cooperation, support for partnerships and mobilization of financial resources, and against this background:

(a) *Encourages* the United Nations system to enhance efforts to strengthen inter-agency collaboration to achieve more effective implementation of chapter 13 of Agenda 21 and paragraph 42 of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

(b) *Also encourages* the continued establishment and development of mountain-related national committees, focal points and other multi-stakeholder mechanisms at the national level for sustainable development in mountain regions;

(c) *Supports* national efforts, within the framework of national development plans, to develop goals and strategic plans for the sustainable development of mountains, as well as enabling policies and laws, programmes and projects;

(d) *Encourages* transboundary approaches, where the States concerned agree, to sustainable development of mountain ranges and information-sharing in this regard;

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[3] A/C.2/57/7, annex.

[4] A/58/134.

(e) *Also encourages* Member States to collect and produce information, as well as to establish databases devoted to mountains so as to capitalize on knowledge to support interdisciplinary research, programmes and projects and to improve decision-making and planning;

(f) *Supports* the development and implementation of global, regional and national communication programmes to build on the awareness and momentum for change established by the International Year of Mountains;

(g) *Stresses* the importance of capacity-building and educational programmes to enhance awareness of good practices in sustainable development in mountain regions and the nature of relationships between highland and lowland areas;

(h) *Calls for* the improvement of mountain women's access to resources and the strengthening of their role in their communities and cultures, and in this context takes note of the recommendations of the Thimpu Declaration adopted at the Celebrating Mountain Women conference, held at Thimpu from 1 to 4 October 2002;

7. *Notes* the entry into force of the nine Protocols to the Convention on the Protection of the Alps as a contribution to regional cooperation for sustainable development in that mountain region;

8. *Notes also* the adoption and signing of the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians by the countries of the region;

9. *Notes further* that a consultative process has been conducted with all Mountain Partnership stakeholders, in particular donor countries, with a view to determining the best options for further assisting all stakeholders in the implementation of the Partnership;

10. *Takes note* of the conclusions of the first global meeting of the members of the Mountain Partnership,[5] held in Merano, Italy, on 5 and 6 October 2003 at the invitation of the Government of Italy;

11. *Notes* that the next global meeting of the members of the Mountain Partnership will be organized during the second half of 2004, and welcomes in this context the offer of the Government of Peru to host the meeting;

12. *Also notes* in this context that the Mountain Partnership is a cooperation mechanism that is dynamic, transparent, flexible and participatory in nature and that is open to all Governments, including local and regional authorities, as well as to intergovernmental, non-governmental and other organizations whose objectives and activities are consistent with the vision and mission of the Partnership;

13. *Further notes* that Mountain Partnership members committed themselves to implement the Partnership in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 2003/61 of 25 July 2003, and calls on them to comply with the criteria and guidelines agreed in the decision taken by the Commission on Sustainable Development at its eleventh session;

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[5] A/C.2/58/8, annex.

14. *Invites* the international community and other relevant partners to consider joining the International Partnership for Sustainable Development in Mountain Regions;

15. *Encourages* all relevant entities of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, to continue their constructive collaboration in the context of the follow-up to the International Year of Mountains, taking into account the inter-agency group on mountains and the need for the further involvement of the United Nations system, in particular the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations University, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund, international financial institutions and other relevant international organizations, taking into account the recommendations formulated in the Bishkek Mountain Platform;[3]

16. *Encourages* Governments, the United Nations system, the international financial institutions, the Global Environment Facility and other relevant United Nations funding mechanisms, such as the Global Mechanism of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa,[6] as well as all relevant stakeholders from civil society organizations and the private sector, to provide support, including through voluntary financial contributions, to local, national and international programmes and projects for sustainable development in mountain regions;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session on the status of sustainable development in mountain regions, including an overall analysis of the challenges that lie ahead and appropriate policy recommendations, under the sub-item entitled "Sustainable development in mountain regions" of the item entitled "Environment and sustainable development".

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[6] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

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General Assembly

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Original: English

Fifty-eighth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 94 (a)
Environment and sustainable development: promotion of new and renewable sources of energy, including the implementation of the World Solar Programme 1996-2005

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairperson of the Committee, Irena Zubčević (Croatia), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/58/L.26

Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy, including the implementation of the World Solar Programme 1996-2005

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 53/7 of 16 October 1998, 54/215 of 22 December 1999, 55/205 of 20 December 2000 and 56/200 of 21 December 2001, on the World Solar Programme 1996-2005,

Recalling also the recommendations and conclusions contained in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation)[1] concerning energy for sustainable development,

Welcoming initiatives that aim to improve access to reliable, affordable, economically viable, socially acceptable and environmentally sound energy services for sustainable development to contribute to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including those set out in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[2]

Emphasizing that the World Solar Programme 1996-2005 is aimed at encompassing all forms of new and renewable energy, including solar, thermal, photovoltaic, biomass, wind, hydro, tidal, ocean and geothermal forms,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[3]

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[1] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[2] See resolution 55/2.

[3] A/58/164.

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2. *Reaffirms* that the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation[1] is the intergovernmental framework for energy for sustainable development agreed to at the World Summit on Sustainable Development and calls for its full implementation;

3. *Notes* the role that the World Solar Commission continues to play in the mobilization of international support and assistance for the implementation of many of the national high-priority projects on renewable sources of energy included in the World Solar Programme 1996-2005, many of which are being executed with national funding;

4. *Notes also* that although significant financial support has been provided by some developed countries that are Members of the United Nations and some intergovernmental organizations, within and outside the United Nations system, in the implementation of the World Solar Programme 1996-2005, more action still needs to be taken in this regard;

5. *Recognizes* that rural energy services, including their financing, should be designed to maximize local ownership, as appropriate;

6. *Encourages* the United Nations system to continue to raise awareness of the importance of energy for sustainable development, including the need for the promotion of new and renewable sources of energy and the implementation of the World Solar Programme 1996-2005, particularly in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication;

7. *Emphasizes* the need to intensify research and development in support of energy for sustainable development, which will require increased commitment on the part of all stakeholders, including Governments and the private sector, to deploy financial and human resources for accelerating research efforts;

8. *Stresses* that the wider use of available renewable sources of energy requires technology transfer and diffusion on a global scale, including through North-South and South-South cooperation;

9. *Calls upon* Governments, as well as relevant regional and international organizations and other relevant stakeholders, to combine, as appropriate, the increased use of renewable energy resources, more efficient use of energy, greater reliance on advanced energy technologies, including advanced and cleaner fossil fuel technologies, and the sustainable use of traditional energy resources, which could meet the growing need for energy services in the longer term to achieve sustainable development;

10. *Encourages* national and regional initiatives on renewable energies to promote access to energy, including renewable energy, for the poorest and to improve energy efficiency and conservation by resorting to a mix of available technologies, taking into full account the provisions of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation on energy for sustainable development;

11. *Welcomes* the initiative of the German Government in hosting the International Conference on Renewable Energies in June 2004;

12. *Invites* the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to continue to make effective the implementation of the Global Renewable Energy Education and Training Programme 1996-2005 in the various regions;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

14. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixtieth session, under the item entitled "Environment and sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy, including the implementation of the World Solar Programme 1996-2005".

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General Assembly

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Fifty-eighth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 94 (b)
Environment and sustainable development: implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mrs. Irena Zubčević (Croatia), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/58/L.15

International Year of Deserts and Desertification, 2006

The General Assembly,

Recalling chapter 12 of Agenda 21 adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development,

Recalling also the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[1]

Recalling further the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development[2] and the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development,[3]

Having considered decision 22/15 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on an international year of deserts and desertification,[4]

Deeply concerned by the exacerbation of desertification, particularly in Africa, and its far-reaching implications for the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals, in particular on poverty eradication,

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[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

[2] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[3] Ibid., resolution 1, annex.

[4] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/58/25), annex.

03-64087 (E) 101203

Recalling also the environment initiative of the New Partnership for Africa's Development,

Conscious of the need to raise public awareness and to protect the biological diversity of deserts as well as indigenous and local communities and the traditional knowledge of those affected by this phenomenon,

1. *Decides* to declare 2006 the International Year of Deserts and Desertification;

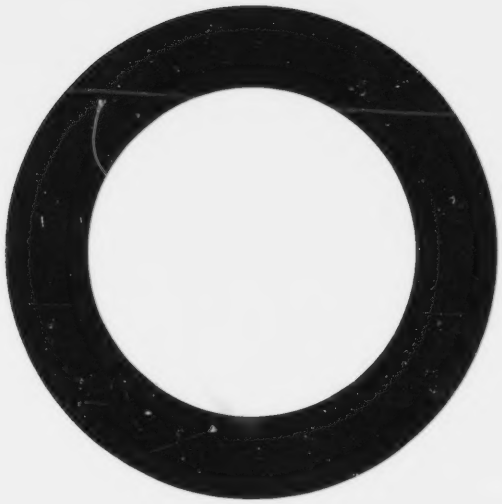
2. *Designates* the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, as focal point of the Year, in conjunction with the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Development Programme, the International Fund for Agricultural Development and other relevant bodies of the United Nations;

3. *Invites* all countries to establish national committees or focal points and to celebrate the Year by arranging appropriate activities;

4. *Calls upon* all relevant international organizations and Member States to support the activities related to desertification, including land degradation, to be organized by affected countries, in particular African countries and least developed countries;

5. *Encourages* countries to contribute, as they are able, to the Convention to Combat Desertification and to undertake special initiatives in observance of the Year with the goal of enhancing the implementation of the Convention;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session on the status of preparation for the Year.



United Nations A/C.2/58/L.61

General Assembly

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10 December 2003

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Fifty-eighth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 94 (c)
Environment and sustainable development: Convention on Biological Diversity

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mrs. Irena Zubčević (Croatia), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/58/L.11

Convention on Biological Diversity

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/201 of 20 December 2000, 56/197 of 21 December 2001 and 57/253 and 57/260 of 20 December 2002,

Reiterating that the Convention on Biological Diversity[1] is the key international instrument for the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of genetic resources,

Recalling the commitments made at the World Summit on Sustainable Development to pursue a more efficient and coherent implementation of the three objectives of the Convention and to the achievement by 2010 of a significant reduction in the current rate of loss of biological diversity, which will require action at all levels, including the implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans and the provision of new and additional financial and technical resources to developing countries,[2]

Reaffirming the urgency of recognizing, subject to national legislation, the rights of local and indigenous communities that are holders of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices and, with the approval and involvement of the holders of such knowledge, innovations and practices, developing and implementing benefit-sharing mechanisms, on mutually agreed terms, for their use,

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[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

[2] See *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex, para. 44.

03-64272 (E) 101203

Expressing its deep appreciation for the generous offer of the Government of Malaysia to host the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, which are to be held in Kuala Lumpur from 9 to 20 February and from 23 to 27 February 2004, respectively,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity, submitted by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;[3]

2. *Notes* the outcome of the open-ended intersessional meeting on the multi-year programme of work of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity up to 2010, which was held in Montreal, Canada, from 17 to 20 March 2003;[4]

3. *Notes also* the outcomes of the eighth[5] and ninth[6] meetings of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, which were held in Montreal from 10 to 14 March and from 10 to 14 November 2003;

4. *Reiterates* the commitment made at the World Summit on Sustainable Development to negotiate within the framework of the Convention on Biological Diversity, bearing in mind the Bonn Guidelines,[7] an international regime to promote and safeguard the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources;[8]

5. *Reiterates also* the commitment made at the World Summit to promote the wide implementation of and continued work on the Bonn Guidelines as an input to assist the Parties when developing and drafting legislative, administrative or policy measures on access and benefit-sharing as well as contract and other arrangements under mutually agreed terms for access and benefit-sharing;[9]

6. *Invites* the countries that have not yet done so to ratify the Convention on Biological Diversity;

7. *Welcomes* the entry into force of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity,[10] on 11 September 2003, and the convening of the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, and invites the parties to the

[3] A/58/191.
[4] UNEP/CBD/COP/7/5.
[5] UNEP/CBD/COP/7/4.
[6] UNEP/CBD/COP/7/3.
[7] Bonn Guidelines on Access to Genetic Resources and Fair and Equitable Sharing of the Benefits Arising out of their Utilization (decision VI/24 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity).
[8] See *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex, para. 44 (o).
[9] Ibid., para. 44 (n).
[10] See UNEP/CBD/ExCOP/1/3 and Corr.1, part two, annex; see also www.biodiv.org/biosafety/protocol.asp.

Convention that have not yet ratified or acceded to the Protocol to consider doing so;

8. *Emphasizes* that the effective implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety will require full support from parties and relevant international organizations, and further urges parties to facilitate capacity-building in biosafety in developing countries, including countries with economies in transition, as well as to develop and strengthen national capacities for making the required information available to and interacting with the Biosafety Clearing House;

9. *Invites* countries to consider ratifying or acceding to the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, adopted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations at its thirty-first session in 2001;[11]

10. *Stresses* the importance of harmonizing the reporting requirements of the biodiversity-related conventions while respecting their independence legal status;

11. *Encourages* developed countries parties to the Convention to contribute to the relevant trust funds of the Convention, in particular so as to enhance the full participation of the developing country parties in all its activities;

12. *Urges* parties to the Convention to facilitate the transfer of technology for the effective implementation of the Convention in accordance with its provisions;

13. *Underlines* the need for increased financial and technical resources for the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention by developing countries as well as countries with economies in transition, and welcomes in this regard the successful and substantial third replenishment of the Global Environment Facility;

14. *Takes note* of the ongoing work of the liaison group of the secretariats and offices of the relevant subsidiary bodies of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[12] the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa,[13] and the Convention on Biological Diversity, and further encourages continuing cooperation in order to promote complementarities among the secretariats while respecting their independent legal status;

15. *Invites* the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity to continue reporting to the General Assembly on the ongoing work regarding the Convention, including on its Cartagena Protocol;

16. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the sub-item entitled "Convention on Biological Diversity".

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[11] C 2001 REP, appendix D.

[12] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[13] Ibid., vol. 1954, No. 33480.

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General Assembly

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11 December 2003

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Fifty-eighth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 94 (c)
Environment and sustainable development:
Convention on Biological Diversity

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mrs. Irena Zubčević (Croatia), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/58/L.11

Convention on Biological Diversity

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/201 of 20 December 2000, 56/197 of 21 December 2001 and 57/253 and 57/260 of 20 December 2002,

Reiterating that the Convention on Biological Diversity[1] is the key international instrument for the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of genetic resources,

Recalling the World Summit on Sustainable Development commitments to pursue a more efficient and coherent implementation of the three objectives of the Convention and to the achievement by 2010 of a significant reduction in the current rate of loss of biological diversity, which will require action at all levels, including the implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans and the provision of new and additional financial and technical resources to developing countries,[2]

Reaffirming the urgency to recognize, subject to national legislation, the rights of local and indigenous communities that are holders of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices and, with the approval and involvement of the holders of such knowledge, innovations and practices, to develop and implement benefit-sharing mechanisms, on mutually agreed terms, for the use of such knowledge, innovations and practices,

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* Reissued for technical reasons.

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

[2] See *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex, para. 44.

03-64272* (E) 111203

Expressing its deep appreciation for the generous offer of the Government of Malaysia to host the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention, to be held at Kuala Lumpur from 9 to 20 February and from 23 to 27 February 2004, respectively,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity, submitted by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;[3]

2. *Notes* the outcome of the open-ended intersessional meeting on the multi-year programme of work to 2010 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, held at Montreal, Canada, from 17 to 20 March 2003;[4]

3. *Notes also* the outcomes of the eighth[5] and ninth[6] meetings of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, held at Montreal from 10 to 14 March and from 10 to 14 November 2003;

4. *Reiterates* the World Summit on Sustainable Development commitment to negotiate within the framework of the Convention on Biological Diversity, bearing in mind the Bonn Guidelines on Access to Genetic Resources and Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits arising out of their Utilization,[7] an international regime to promote and safeguard the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources;[8]

5. *Reiterates also* the Summit commitment to promote the wide implementation of and continued work on the Bonn Guidelines as an input to assist the parties to the Convention when developing and drafting legislative, administrative or policy measures on access and benefit-sharing as well as contract and other arrangements under mutually agreed terms for access and benefit-sharing;[9]

6. *Invites* the countries that have not yet done so to ratify the Convention;

7. *Welcomes* the entry into force of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention,[10] on 11 September 2003 and the convening of the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol, and invites the parties to the Convention that have not yet ratified or acceded to the Protocol to consider doing so;

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[3] A/58/191.

[4] UNEP/CBD/COP/7/5.

[5] UNEP/CBD/COP/7/4.

[6] UNEP/CBD/COP/7/3.

[7] Bonn Guidelines on Access to Genetic Resources and Fair and Equitable Sharing of the Benefits Arising out of their Utilization (decision VI/24 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity).

[8] See *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex, para. 44 (o).

[9] Ibid., para. 44 (n).

[10] See UNEP/CBD/ExCOP/1/3 and Corr.1, part two, annex; see also www.biodiv.org/biosafety/protocol.asp.

8. *Emphasizes* that the effective implementation of the Protocol will require full support from parties and relevant international organizations, and further urges parties to facilitate capacity-building in biosafety in developing countries, as well as countries with economies in transition, including the development and strengthening of national capacities for making the required information available to and interacting with the Biosafety Clearing House;

9. *Invites* countries to consider ratifying or acceding to the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture;[11]

10. *Encourages* developed countries that are parties to the Convention to contribute to the relevant trust funds of the Convention, in particular so as to enhance the full participation in all its activities of developing countries that are parties to the Convention;

11. *Urges* parties to the Convention to facilitate the transfer of technology for the effective implementation of the Convention in accordance with its provisions;

12. *Underlines* the need for increased financial and technical resources for the implementation of the Convention and the Protocol by developing countries and countries with economies in transition, and welcomes in this regard the successful and substantial third replenishment of the Global Environment Facility;

13. *Takes note* of the ongoing work of the liaison group of the secretariats and offices of the relevant subsidiary bodies of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[12] the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa,[13] and the Convention on Biological Diversity, and further encourages continuing cooperation in order to promote complementarities among the secretariats while respecting their independent legal status;

14. *Stresses* the importance of harmonizing the reporting requirements of the biodiversity-related conventions while respecting their independent legal status;

15. *Invites* the Executive Secretary of the Convention to continue reporting to the General Assembly on the ongoing work regarding the Convention, including its Cartagena Protocol;

16. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the sub-item entitled "Convention on Biological Diversity".

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[11] C 2001/REP, appendix D.

[12] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[13] Ibid., vol. 1954, No. 33480.

United Nations A/C.2/58/L.61**

General Assembly

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12 December 2003

Original: English

Fifty-eighth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 94 (c)
Environment and sustainable development:
Convention on Biological Diversity

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mrs. Irena Zubčević (Croatia), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/58/L.11

Convention on Biological Diversity

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/201 of 20 December 2000, 56/197 of 21 December 2001 and 57/253 and 57/260 of 20 December 2002,

Reiterating that the Convention on Biological Diversity[1] is the key international instrument for the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of genetic resources,

Recalling the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) commitments to pursue a more efficient and coherent implementation of the three objectives of the Convention and the achievement by 2010 of a significant reduction in the current rate of loss of biological diversity, which will require action at all levels, including the implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans and the provision of new and additional financial and technical resources to developing countries,

Reaffirming the urgency to, subject to national legislation, recognize the rights of local and indigenous communities who are holders of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices, and, with the approval and involvement of the holders of such knowledge, innovations and practices, to develop and implement benefit-sharing mechanisms on mutually agreed terms, for the use of such knowledge, innovations and practices,

** Second reissue for technical reasons.
[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

03-64272** (E) 121203

Expressing its deep appreciation for the generous offer of the Government of Malaysia to host the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, to be held in Kuala Lumpur, respectively, from 9 to 20 February and from 23 to 27 February 2004,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity, submitted by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;[2]

2. *Notes* the outcome of the open-ended intersessional meeting on the multi-year programme of work of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity up to 2010, held at Montreal, Canada, from 17 to 20 March 2003;

3. *Notes also* the outcomes of the eighth and ninth meetings of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, held at Montreal, Canada, from 10 to 14 March and from 10 to 14 November 2003;

4. *Reiterates* the WSSD commitment to negotiate within the framework of the Convention on Biological Diversity, bearing in mind the Bonn Guidelines, an international regime to promote and safeguard the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources;

5. *Reiterates also* the WSSD commitment to promote the wide implementation of and continued work on the Bonn Guidelines on Access to Genetic Resources and Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits arising out of their Utilization, as an input to assist the Parties when developing and drafting legislative, administrative or policy measures on access and benefit-sharing as well as contract and other arrangements under mutually agreed terms for access and benefit-sharing;

6. *Invites* the countries that have not yet done so to ratify the Convention on Biological Diversity;

7. *Welcomes* the entry into force of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity,[3] on 11 September 2003 and the convening of the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, and invites the parties to the Convention that have not yet ratified or acceded to the Protocol to consider doing so;

8. *Emphasizes* that the effective implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety will require full support from parties and relevant international organizations and further urges parties to facilitate capacity-building in biosafety in developing countries as well as countries with economies in transition, including to develop and strengthen national capacities for making the required information available to and interacting with the Biosafety Clearing House;

9. *Invites* countries to consider ratifying or acceding to the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture;

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[2] A/58/191.

[3] See UNEP/CBD/ExCOP/1/3 and Corr.1, part two, annex.

10. *Encourages* developed countries parties to the Convention to contribute to the relevant trust funds of the Convention, in particular so as to enhance the full participation of the developing country parties in all its activities;

11. *Urges* parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity to facilitate the transfer of technology for the effective implementation of the Convention in accordance with its provisions;

12. *Underlines* the need for increased financial and technical resources for the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety by developing countries as well as countries with economies in transition, and in this regard welcomes the successful and substantial third replenishment of the Global Environment Facility;

13. *Takes note* of the ongoing work of the liaison group of the secretariats and offices of the relevant subsidiary bodies of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[4] the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[5] and the Convention on Biological Diversity, and further encourages continuing cooperation in order to promote complementarities among the secretariats, while respecting their independent legal status;

14. *Stresses* the importance of harmonizing the reporting requirements of the biodiversity-related conventions while respecting their independent legal status;

15. *Invites* the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity to continue reporting to the General Assembly on the ongoing work regarding the Convention, including its Cartagena Protocol;

16. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the sub-item entitled "Convention on Biological Diversity".

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[4] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[5] Ibid., vol. 1954, No. 33480.

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General Assembly

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10 December 2003

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Fifty-eighth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 12
Report of the Economic and Social Council

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Ms. Ulrika Cronenburg-Mossberg (Sweden), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/58/L.23

Public administration and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 50/225 of 19 April 1996, 53/201 of 15 December 1998, 56/213 of 21 December 2001 and 57/277 of 20 December 2002 on public administration and development, as well as Economic and Social Council resolution 2001/45 of 20 December 2001,

Stressing the need for capacity-building initiatives aimed at institution-building, human resources development, strengthening financial management and harnessing the power of information and technology,

Recalling that 2006 will mark the tenth anniversary of the resumed fiftieth session of the General Assembly on public administration and development,

Welcoming the adoption of the Ibero-American Charter for the Public Service at the fifth Ibero-American Conference of Ministers for Public Administration and State Reform, held in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, on 26 and 27 June 2003,[1]

Expressing its deep appreciation for the generosity of the Government of Mexico in hosting the fifth Global Forum on Reinventing Government in Mexico City in November 2003,

Welcoming e-Government initiatives as a tool to promote development,

Welcoming also the adoption of the United Nations Convention against Corruption,

[1] A/58/193, annex II.

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1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General[2] on the role of public administration in the implementation of the United Nations Millennium Declaration;[3]

2. *Reiterates* that efficient, accountable, effective and transparent public administration, at both the national and international levels, has a key role to play in the implementation of internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, and in that context stresses the need to strengthen national public sector administrative and managerial capacity-building, in particular in developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

3. *Takes note with appreciation* of the commemoration of 23 June as United Nations Public Service Day and the granting of the United Nations Public Service Awards, which provide motivation for public servants all over the world to enhance public administration as a tool for development, and in this regard encourages Member States to participate in the award process by nominating candidates;

4. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the fourth Global Forum on Reinventing Government, held in Marrakech, Morocco, on 11 and 12 December 2002;[4]

5. *Welcomes* with appreciation the offer of the Government of the Republic of Korea to host the sixth Global Forum on Reinventing Government in Seoul in 2005;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make proposals for commemorating the tenth anniversary of the resumed fiftieth session of the General Assembly on public administration and development during the sixty-first session of the General Assembly, in 2006;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to support information exchange and research and to disseminate successful practices and advisory services in public administration that contribute to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration;

8. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue supporting the e-Government initiatives in the African, Asian, Central American and Caribbean regions as a tool for development;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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[2] A/58/152.

[3] See resolution 55/2.

[4] A/58/383, annex.

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Fifty-eighth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 95
Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Ms. Irena Zubčević (Croatia), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/58/L.9

Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/199 of 20 December 2000, 56/226 of 24 December 2001, 57/253 of 20 December 2002 and 57/270 A and B of 20 December 2002 and 23 June 2003, respectively,

Recalling also the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[1] Agenda 21,[2] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[3] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[4] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[5]

Reaffirming the commitment to implement the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, including the time-bound goals and targets, and the other

[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex I.

[2] Ibid., annex II.

[3] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[4] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[5] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

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internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[6]

Expressing its satisfaction that the Commission on Sustainable Development, at its eleventh session, agreed on its new organization of work and multi-year programme of work, as well as new methods of work aimed at promoting and supporting implementation and the provision for the Commission to work in a series of two-year action-oriented implementation cycles, alternating review and policy years,

Noting the adoption by the Commission, at its eleventh session, of criteria and guidelines on partnership initiatives voluntarily undertaken by some Governments, international organizations and major groups, announced at the Summit and in the follow-up to the Summit, as endorsed by the Economic and Social Council,[7]

Reaffirming the continuing need to ensure a balance between economic development, social development and environmental protection as interdependent and mutually reinforcing pillars of sustainable development,

Reaffirming also that poverty eradication, changing unsustainable patterns of production and consumption, and protecting and managing the natural resource base of economic and social development are overarching objectives of, and essential requirements for, sustainable development,

Noting the convening in Marrakesh, Morocco, from 16 to 19 June 2003, of an international expert meeting on a ten-year framework of programmes for sustainable consumption and production,

Recognizing that good governance within each country and at the international level is essential for sustainable development,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General[8] on the activities undertaken in implementation of Agenda 21,[2] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21[3] and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development;

2. *Reiterates* that sustainable development is a key element of the overarching framework for United Nations activities, in particular for achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[6] and in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;[5]

3. *Calls upon* Governments, all relevant international and regional organizations, the Economic and Social Council, the United Nations funds and programmes, the regional commissions and specialized agencies, the international financial institutions, the Global Environment Facility and other intergovernmental organizations, in accordance with their respective mandates, as well as major groups, to take actions to ensure the effective implementation of and follow-up to the commitments, programmes and time-bound targets adopted at the Summit, and encourages them to report on concrete progress in that regard;

4. *Calls for* the implementation of the commitments, programmes and time-bound targets adopted at the Summit and, to that end, for the fulfilment of the

[6] See resolution 55/2.
[7] See Council resolution 2003/61.
[8] A/58/210.

provisions of the means of implementation, as contained in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to strengthen system-wide inter-agency cooperation and coordination for the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, and in that regard to report on such inter-agency cooperation and coordination activities to the Commission on Sustainable Development and the Economic and Social Council in 2004;

6. *Welcomes* the decision of the Commission at its eleventh session to invite the regional commissions, in collaboration with the secretariat of the Commission, to consider organizing regional implementation meetings in order to contribute to the work of the Commission, and in this regard urges the regional commissions to take into account the relevant thematic clusters contained in the Commission's programme of work and to provide inputs as specified by the Commission at its eleventh session;

7. *Also welcomes* the decision of the Commission at its eleventh session to invite other regional and subregional bodies and institutions within and outside the United Nations system to contribute to the preparations for the Commission's review and policy sessions and the intergovernmental preparatory meeting;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in reporting to the twelfth session of the Commission on the state of implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, on the basis of inputs from all levels, as specified by the Commission at its eleventh session, to present:

(a) One report for each of the issues of water, sanitation and human settlement, to be addressed in an integrated manner in the session, which should contain a detailed review of progress of implementation in those issues, taking into account, as appropriate, their interlinkages, while addressing the cross-cutting issues identified by the Commission at its eleventh session;

(b) A report on the overall progress in the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, reflecting (i) cross-cutting issues identified by the Commission at its eleventh session; (ii) progress made in the three dimensions of sustainable development and their integration; and (iii) constraints, challenges, opportunities, best practices, information-sharing and lessons learned;

9. *Invites* the Bureau of the Commission at its twelfth session to continue to recommend to the Commission the specific organizational modalities through open-ended and transparent consultations to be conducted in a timely manner, following the established United Nations rules of procedure, bearing in mind that the activities during Commission meetings should provide for balanced involvement of participants from all regions, as well as for gender balance;

10. *Decides* to allocate the resources previously devoted to the former ad hoc intersessional working groups of the Commission to support the participation of representatives of member States of the Commission in one of their respective regional meetings in each implementation cycle;

11. *Invites* donor countries to consider supporting the participation in the next review and policy sessions of the Commission of experts from developing countries in the areas of water, sanitation and human settlement;

12. *Decides also* that resources released by the termination of the work of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources for Development, whose work has been transferred to the Commission, shall be used to support the work of the Commission;

13. *Encourages* Governments and organizations at all levels, as well as major groups, including the scientific community and educators, to undertake result-oriented initiatives and activities to support the work of the Commission and to promote and facilitate the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, including through voluntary multi-stakeholders partnerships initiatives;

14. *Further encourages* Governments to participate, at the appropriate level, through representatives of relevant departments and agencies responsible for water, sanitation and human settlement, in the next review and policy sessions of the Commission;

15. *Requests* the Secretariat to submit a summary report containing synthesized information on partnerships to the Commission at its twelfth session, in accordance with its programme and organization of work, noting the particular relevance of such reports in review years, with a view to sharing lessons learned and best practices, and identifying and addressing problems, gaps and constraints in the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

16. *Requests* the Commission, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 47/191 of 22 December 1992 and as specified by the Commission at its eleventh session, to examine progress in the cross-cutting issues in the relevant thematic clusters, utilizing inputs from all levels, as specified by the Commission at its eleventh session;

17. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council to implement the provisions of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation relevant to its mandate, in particular to promote the implementation of Agenda 21 by strengthening system-wide coordination;

18. *Urges* the Secretariat, in the preparation of the reports of the Secretary-General referred to in paragraph 8 above, to take due account of national reports;

19. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the item entitled "Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development", and requests the Secretary-General, at that session, to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

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General Assembly

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Fifty-eighth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 101
Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and of the twenty-fifth special session of the General Assembly

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mrs. Irena Zubčević (Croatia), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/58/L.31

Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and the strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 3327 (XXIX) of 16 December 1974, 32/162 of 19 December 1977, 34/115 of 14 December 1979, 56/205 and 56/206 of 21 December 2001 and 57/275 of 20 December 2002,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolutions 2002/38 of 26 July 2002 and 2003/62 of 25 July 2003,

Recalling the Habitat Agenda[1] and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium,[2]

Recalling also the goal contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[3] of achieving a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum-dwellers by 2020, as proposed in the Cities without Slums Initiative, and recalling further the goal contained in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation)[4] to halve, by the year 2015, the proportion of people who are unable to reach or afford

[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3-14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.
[2] Resolution S-25/2, annex.
[3] See resolution 55/2.
[4] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

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safe drinking water and the proportion of people who do not have access to basic sanitation,

Taking into account the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[5] and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, as well as the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[6]

Recognizing that the overall thrust of the new strategic vision of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) and its emphasis on the two global campaigns on secure tenure and urban governance are strategic points of entry for the effective implementation of the Habitat Agenda, especially for guiding international cooperation in respect of adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements development,

Conscious of the need to achieve greater coherence and effectiveness in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium and the relevant internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,

Recognizing the need for increased and predictable financial contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation in the new millennium to ensure timely, effective and concrete results in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium and the relevant internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the Johannesburg Declaration and Plan of Implementation, particularly in developing countries,

Welcoming the establishment by the Executive Director of UN-Habitat of a Water and Sanitation Trust Fund as a financing mechanism to support the creation of enabling environments for pro-poor investment in water and sanitation in developing-country cities,

Commending those countries that have contributed to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, as indicated in the report of the Secretary-General on the coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda,[7]

Reiterating the call to the Executive Director of UN-Habitat to increase her efforts to strengthen the Foundation in order to achieve its primary operative objective, as set out in resolution 3327 (XXIX), of supporting the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, including supporting shelter, related infrastructure-development programmes and housing-finance institutions and mechanisms, particularly in developing countries,

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[5] Ibid., resolution 1, annex.

[6] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[7] E/2003/76.

Recalling the decision of the Commission on Sustainable Development at its eleventh session to address the themes of water, sanitation and human settlements in its next review and policy sessions,[8]

Noting the efforts undertaken by UN-Habitat to forge partnerships with Habitat Agenda partners, other United Nations funds and programmes and international financial institutions, such as the World Bank,

Recognizing that shelter and human settlements planning and administration are important sectors in humanitarian efforts,

Expressing its appreciation to the Government of Spain and the city of Barcelona for their willingness to host the second session of the World Urban Forum in 2004 and to the Government of Canada and the city of Vancouver for their willingness to host the third session of the World Urban Forum in 2006,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) on the work of its nineteenth session[9] and the report of the Secretary-General on the special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and the strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat);[10]

2. *Recognizes* that Governments have the primary responsibility for the sound and effective implementation of the Habitat Agenda[1] and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium,[2] and stresses that the international community should fully implement its commitments to support the Governments of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in their efforts, through the provision of requisite resources, capacity-building, transfer of technology and the creation of an international enabling environment;

3. *Encourages* Governments to include issues pertaining to shelter and sustainable human settlements and urban poverty in their national development strategies, including the Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers, where they exist;

4. *Urges* Governments to promote pro-poor investments in services and infrastructure, in particular water and sanitation, in order to improve living environments, in particular in slums and informal settlements;

5. *Encourages* Governments to establish, local, national and regional urban observatories and to provide financial and substantive support to UN-Habitat for the further development of methodologies for data collection, analysis and dissemination;

6. *Also encourages* Governments to support and enable the participation of youth in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, through social, cultural and economic activities at the city level and other national- and local-level activities;

7. *Encourages* Governments and UN-Habitat to continue to promote partnerships with local authorities, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and other Habitat Agenda partners, including women's groups and academic and professional groups, in order to empower them, within the legal framework and

[8] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2003, Supplement No. 9* (E/2003/29).
[9] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 8* (A/58/8).
[10] A/58/178.

conditions of each country, to play a more effective role in the provision of adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements development in an urbanizing world;

8. *Encourages* UN-Habitat to continue to work closely with other relevant agencies within the United Nations system, in particular members and observers of the United Nations Development Group and the members of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee established by the General Assembly in its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991;

9. *Requests* UN-Habitat to strengthen further its efforts to make the Cities Alliance initiative an effective means for the implementation of the twin goals of the Habitat Agenda, namely, adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements development in an urbanizing world;

10. *Takes note with appreciation* of the efforts undertaken by the Cities Alliance partnership between the World Bank and UN-Habitat, and other donor countries, to continue to provide an important forum for policy coordination and development, as well as to provide support for the preparation of pro-poor city development strategies and slum upgrading programmes within the legal framework and conditions of each country;

11. *Invites* the Secretary-General to incorporate the assessment of the progress towards the target of achieving a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum-dwellers by 2020 in his report for the 2005 review of the implementation of the United Nations Millennium Declaration;

12. *Welcomes* the fund-raising efforts of the Executive Director of UN-Habitat, which realized an increase in the general-purpose contributions of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation for the year 2003;

13. *Calls* for continued financial support to UN-Habitat through increased voluntary contributions to the Foundation and invites Governments to provide multi-year funding to support programme implementation;

14. *Requests* UN-Habitat to collaborate with the Division for Sustainable Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat in the preparation for the twelfth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development so as to promote a fruitful discussion on the thematic cluster of issues on water, sanitation and human settlements;

15. *Requests* the Executive Director of UN-Habitat to inform the Governing Council of UN-Habitat on the results of the discussions of the topics of water, sanitation and human settlements in the Commission on Sustainable Development at its twelfth session;

16. *Notes* that the upcoming sessions of the World Urban Forum, a non-legislative technical forum, in Barcelona, Spain, in 2004 and, Vancouver, Canada, in 2006, offer an opportunity for experts to exchange experiences, best practices and lessons learned in the field of human settlements;

17. *Invites* donor countries to support the participation of representatives of developing countries in the second and future sessions of the World Urban Forum;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the resource needs of UN-Habitat and the United Nations Office at Nairobi under review so as to permit the delivery,

in an effective manner, of necessary services to the Programme and the other United Nations organs and organizations in Nairobi;

19. *Requests* UN-Habitat, as the focal point for human settlements development and for coordination of human settlements activities within the United Nations system, to work towards coordination of human settlements issues as inputs into the overall coordination of humanitarian efforts, inter alia, through its participation in the consideration of the issue of the transition from relief to development by the Economic and Social Council in the near future;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

21. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session an item entitled "Special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and the strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)".

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Agenda item 101
Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and of the twenty-fifth special session of the General Assembly

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mrs. Irena Zubčevič (Croatia), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/58/L.31

Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and the strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 3327 (XXIX) of 16 December 1974, 32/162 of 19 December 1977, 34/115 of 14 December 1979, 56/205 and 56/206 of 21 December 2001 and 57/275 of 20 December 2002,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolutions 2002/38 of 26 July 2002 and 2003/62 of 25 July 2003,

Recalling the Habitat Agenda[1] and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium,[2]

Recalling also the goal contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[3] of achieving a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum-dwellers by 2020, as proposed in the Cities without Slums Initiative, and recalling also the goal contained in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation[4] to halve, by the year 2015, the proportion of people who are unable to reach or

* Reissued for technical reasons.

[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3-14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[2] Resolution S-25/2, annex.

[3] See resolution 55/2.

[4] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

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afford safe drinking water and the proportion of people who do not have access to basic sanitation,

Taking into account the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[5] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"), as well as the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[6]

Recognizing that the overall thrust of the new strategic vision of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) and its emphasis on the two global campaigns on secure tenure and urban governance are strategic points of entry for the effective implementation of the Habitat Agenda, especially for guiding international cooperation in respect of adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements development,

Conscious of the need to achieve greater coherence and effectiveness in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium and the relevant internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,

Recognizing the need for increased and predictable financial contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation in the new millennium to ensure timely, effective and concrete results in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium and the relevant internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the Johannesburg Declaration and Plan of Implementation, particularly in developing countries,

Welcoming the establishment by the Executive Director of UN-Habitat of a Water and Sanitation Trust Fund as a financing mechanism to support the creation of enabling environments for pro-poor investment in water and sanitation in developing-country cities,

Commending those countries that have contributed to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, as indicated in the report of the Secretary-General, document (E/2003/76),

Reiterating the call to the Executive Director of UN-Habitat to increase her efforts to strengthen the Foundation in order to achieve its primary operative objective, as set out in resolution 3327 (XXIX), of supporting the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, including supporting shelter, related infrastructure-development programmes and housing-finance institutions and mechanisms, particularly in developing countries,

Recalling the decision of the Commission on Sustainable Development at its eleventh session to address the themes of water, sanitation and human settlements in its next review and policy sessions,[7]

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[5] Ibid., resolution 1, annex.

[6] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[7] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2003, Supplement No. 9* (E/2003/29).

Noting the efforts by the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) to forge partnerships with Habitat Agenda partners, other United Nations funds and programmes and with international financial institutions, such as the World Bank,

Recognizing that shelter and human settlements planning and administration are important sectors in humanitarian efforts,

Expressing its appreciation to the Government of Spain and the city of Barcelona for their willingness to host the second session of the World Urban Forum in 2004 and to the Government of Canada and the city of Vancouver for their willingness to host the third session of the World Urban Forum in 2006,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) on the work of its nineteenth session[8] and the report of the Secretary-General on the special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and the strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat);[9]

2. *Recognizes* that Governments have the primary responsibility for the sound and effective implementation of the Habitat Agenda[1] and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium,[2] and stresses that the international community should fully implement its commitments to support the Governments of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in their efforts, through the provision of requisite resources, capacity-building, transfer of technology and the creation of an international enabling environment;

3. *Encourages* Governments to include issues pertaining to shelter and sustainable human settlements and urban poverty in their national development strategies, including the Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs), where they exist;

4. *Urges* Governments to promote pro-poor investments in services and infrastructure, in particular water and sanitation, in order to improve living environments, in particular in slums and informal settlements;

5. *Encourages* Governments to establish local, national and regional urban observatories and to provide financial and substantive support to UN-Habitat for the further development of methodologies for data collection, analysis and dissemination;

6. *Encourages* Governments to support and enable the participation of youth in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, through social, cultural and economic activities at the city level and other national- and local-level activities;

7. *Encourages* Governments and UN-Habitat to continue to promote partnerships with local authorities, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and other Habitat Agenda partners, including women's groups and academic and professional groups, in order to empower them, within the legal framework and conditions of each country, to play a more effective role in the provision of adequate

[8] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 8* (A/58/8).
[9] A/58/178.

shelter for all and sustainable human settlements development in an urbanizing world;

8. *Also encourages* UN-Habitat to continue to work closely with other relevant agencies within the United Nations system, in particular members and observers of the United Nations Development Group and the members of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee on Humanitarian Affairs;

9. *Requests* UN-Habitat to strengthen further its efforts to make the Cities Alliance initiative an effective means for the implementation of the twin goals of the Habitat Agenda, namely, adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements development in an urbanizing world;

10. *Takes note with appreciation* of the efforts by the Cities Alliance partnership between the World Bank and UN-Habitat, and other donor countries, to continue to provide an important forum for policy coordination and development, as well as to provide support for the preparation of pro-poor city development strategies and slum upgrading programmes within the legal framework and conditions of each country;

11. *Invites* the Secretary-General to incorporate the assessment of the progress towards the target of achieving a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum-dwellers by 2020 in his report for the 2005 review of the implementation of the United Nations Millennium Declaration;

12. *Welcomes* the fund-raising efforts of the Executive Director of UN-Habitat, which realized an increase in the general-purpose contributions of the Foundation for the year 2003;

13. *Calls* for continued financial support to UN-Habitat through increased voluntary contributions to the Foundation and invites Governments to provide multi-year funding to support programme implementation;

14. *Requests* UN-Habitat to collaborate with the Division for Sustainable Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat in the preparation for the twelfth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development to promote a fruitful discussion on the thematic cluster of issues on water, sanitation and human settlements;

15. *Also requests* the Executive Director of UN-Habitat to inform the Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme on the results of the discussions of the topics of water, sanitation and human settlements (Mexico) in the twelfth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development;

16. *Notes* that the upcoming sessions in 2004 (Barcelona) and 2006 (Vancouver) of the World Urban Forum, a non-legislative technical forum, offers an opportunity to experts to exchange experiences, best practices and lessons learned in the field of human settlements;

17. *Invites* donor countries to support the participation of representatives of the developing countries in the second and future sessions of the World Urban Forum;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the resource needs of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) and the United Nations Office at Nairobi under review so as to permit the delivery, in an effective manner, of

necessary services to the Programme and the other United Nations organs and organizations in Nairobi;

19. *Requests* UN-Habitat, as the focal point for human settlements development and for coordination of human settlements activities within the United Nations system, to work towards coordination of human settlements issues as inputs to the overall coordination of humanitarian efforts, including through its participation in the consideration of the issue of the transition from relief to development by the Economic and Social Council in the near future;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

21. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session an item entitled "Special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and the strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)".

United Nations A/C.2/58/L.65

General Assembly

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Fifty-eighth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 93 (a)
Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: women in development

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Ms. Ulrika Cronenberg-Mossberg (Sweden), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/58/L.27

Women in development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/195 of 18 December 1997, 54/210 of 22 December 1999 and 56/188 of 21 December 2001 and all its other resolutions on the integration of women in development, and the relevant resolutions and agreed conclusions, including those on women in the economy,[1] adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women,

Recalling also the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[2]

Reaffirming the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[3] which affirms that the equal rights and opportunities of women and men must be assured, and calls for, inter alia, the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women as being effective and essential in the combat of poverty, hunger and disease and in stimulating development that is truly sustainable,

Reaffirming also that gender equality is of fundamental importance for achieving sustained economic growth and sustainable development, in accordance with the relevant General Assembly resolutions and recent United Nations conferences, and that investing in the development of women and girls has a multiplier effect, in particular on productivity, efficiency and sustained economic growth,

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[1] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1997, Supplement No. 7* (E/1997/27), chap. I, sect. C.1, agreed conclusions 1997/3.

[2] Resolutions S-23/2, annex, and S-23/3, annex.

[3] See resolution 55/2.

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Recognizing the significant contribution that women make to the economy and the major force that they represent for change and development in all sectors of the economy, especially in key areas such as agriculture, industry and services,

Reaffirming that women are key contributors to the economy and to combating poverty through both remunerated and unremunerated work at home, in the community and in the workplace, and that the empowerment of women is a critical factor in the eradication of poverty,

Recognizing that population and development issues, education and training, health, nutrition, the environment, water supply, sanitation, housing, communications, science and technology and employment opportunities are important elements for effective poverty eradication and the advancement and empowerment of women,

Recognizing also, in this context, the importance of respect for all human rights, including the right to development, and of a national and international environment that promotes, inter alia, justice, gender equality, equity, civil and political participation and political freedom for the advancement and empowerment of women,

Recognizing further that equal access to education and training, in particular in business, trade, administration, information and communication technologies and other new technologies, is essential for gender equality, the empowerment of women and poverty eradication,

Recognizing that the difficult socio-economic conditions that exist in many developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, have resulted in the acceleration of the feminization of poverty and that the empowerment of women is a critical factor in the eradication of poverty,

Recognizing also that poverty eradication and the achievement and preservation of peace are mutually reinforcing, and recognizing further that peace is inextricably linked to equality between women and men and to development,

Aware that, while globalization and liberalization processes have created employment opportunities for women in many countries, they have also made women, especially in developing countries and in particular in the least developed countries, more vulnerable to problems caused by increased economic volatility,

Recognizing that some effects of market liberalization may deepen the socio-economic marginalization of women in the agricultural sector, inter alia, through the loss of employment among small-scale farmers who are more likely to be women than men, and emphasizing that women who are small-scale farmers need special support and empowerment so as to be able to meet the challenges and take advantage of the opportunities of agricultural market liberalization,

Recognizing also that enhanced trade opportunities for developing countries, inter alia, through trade liberalization, will improve the economic condition of those societies, including women, which is of particular importance in rural communities,

Aware that, while women represent an important and growing proportion of business owners, their contribution to economic and social development is constrained by, inter alia, the lack of equal access of women and men to, and control over, credit, technology, support services, land and information,

Concerned that the continuing discrimination against women, the denial or lack of equal rights and access to education, training and credit facilities, and the lack of control over land, capital, technology and other areas of production impede their full and equal contribution to, and equal opportunity to benefit from, development,

Emphasizing the promotion of programmes aimed at financial intermediation with a view to ensuring the access of rural women to credit and to agricultural inputs and implements and, in particular, to easing collateral requirements for access to finance by women,

Expressing its concern about the underrepresentation of women in economic decision-making, and stressing the importance of mainstreaming a gender perspective in the formulation, implementation and evaluation of all policies,

Noting the importance of the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, in particular its funds and programmes, including the United Nations Development Fund for Women, in facilitating the advancement of women in development, and recognizing the work done by the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "The empowerment of women and integration of gender perspectives in the promotion of economic growth, poverty eradication and sustainable development";[4]

2. *Reaffirms* the goals and commitments contained in the Beijing Declaration[5] and Platform for Action[6] and also in the political declaration[7] and further actions and initiatives to implement the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action[8] adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-third special session;

3. *Calls upon* Governments, the relevant entities of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, and all relevant actors of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to continue to take effective action to achieve full and effective implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly;

4. *Stresses* the importance of creating a favourable and conducive national and international environment in all fields of life for the effective integration of women in development;

5. *Urges* all Governments to develop and promote strategies to mainstream a gender perspective in the design and implementation of economic and development policies, and in the monitoring and evaluation of related programmes of action;

6. *Recognizes* the need to mainstream a gender perspective in budget policies at all levels and calls upon Governments to increase women's full and equal

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[4] A/58/135.

[5] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[6] Ibid., annex II.

[7] Resolution S-23/2, annex.

[8] Resolution S-23/3, annex.

participation in economic decision-making through, inter alia, their engagement in the budgetary process;

7. *Also recognizes* the mutually reinforcing links between gender equality and poverty eradication, as well as the need to elaborate and implement, where appropriate, in consultation with civil society, comprehensive gender-sensitive poverty eradication strategies that address social, structural and macroeconomic issues;

8. *Further recognizes* the need to strengthen the capacity of Governments to incorporate a gender perspective in policies and decision-making, and encourages all Governments, international organizations, including the United Nations system, and other relevant stakeholders, to assist and support developing countries in integrating a gender perspective in all aspects of policy-making, inter alia, through the provision of technical assistance and financial resources;

9. *Stresses* the importance of developing national strategies for the promotion of sustainable and productive entrepreneurial activities that will generate income among disadvantaged women and women living in poverty;

10. *Urges* all Governments to ensure women's equal rights with men and their full and equal access to education, training, employment, technology and economic and financial resources, including credit, in particular for rural women and women in the informal sector, and to facilitate, where appropriate, the transition of women from the informal to the formal sector;

11. *Encourages* Governments, the private sector, non-governmental organizations and other actors of civil society to promote and protect the rights of women workers and to take action to remove structural and legal barriers as well as stereotypic attitudes to gender equality at work, and to initiate positive steps to promote equal pay for equal work or work of equal value;

12. *Urges* all Governments to take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women with regard to their access to bank loans, mortgages and other forms of financial credit, giving special attention to poor, uneducated women, and to support women's access to legal assistance;

13. *Calls upon* Governments and entrepreneurial associations to facilitate the access of women, including young women and women entrepreneurs, to education and training in business, administration and information and communication technologies;

14. *Recognizes* the role of microfinance, including microcredit, in the eradication of poverty, the empowerment of women and the generation of employment, and in this regard notes the importance of sound national financial systems and encourages the strengthening of existing and emerging microcredit institutions and their capacities, inter alia, through the support of international financial institutions;

15. *Stresses* the need for assistance to enable women in developing countries, particularly grass-roots women's groups, to have full access to and use of new technologies, including information technologies, for their empowerment;

16. *Urges* States to design and revise laws that ensure that women are accorded full and equal rights to own land and other property, inter alia, through

inheritance, and to undertake administrative reforms and other necessary measures to give women the same right as men to credit, capital and appropriate technologies and access to markets and information;

17. *Calls upon* Governments to encourage the financial sector to mainstream a gender perspective in its policies and programmes, in particular by:

(a) Exploring viable options with respect to reaching people living in poverty, in particular women, inter alia, through international public and/or private funds;

(b) Designing savings schemes that are attractive to the poor and to poor women in particular;

(c) Undertaking research to learn more about the characteristics, financial needs and performance of businesses owned by women;

(d) Working towards equal treatment for women clients through comprehensive gender-awareness training for staff at all levels and better representation of women in decision-making positions;

18. *Requests* Governments to ensure the full and equal participation of women in decision-making and in policy formulation and implementation at all levels so that their priorities, skills and potentials can be adequately reflected in national policy;

19. *Calls upon* Governments to promote, inter alia, through legislation, family-friendly and gender-sensitive work environments and to also promote the facilitation of breastfeeding for working mothers as well as the provision of the necessary care for working women's children and other dependants, and to consider promoting policies and programmes, as appropriate, to enable men and women to reconcile their work, social and family responsibilities;

20. *Expresses its concern* that the HIV/AIDS pandemic reinforces gender inequalities and that women and girls bear a disproportionate share of the burden imposed by the HIV/AIDS crisis, that they are more easily infected, that they play a key role in care and that they have become more vulnerable to poverty as a result of the HIV/AIDS crisis;

21. *Calls upon* the international community to make efforts to mitigate the effects of excess volatility and economic disruption, which have a disproportionately negative impact on women, and to enhance trade opportunities for developing countries in order to improve the economic conditions of women;

22. *Urges* the international community, the United Nations system and relevant organizations to give priority to assisting the efforts of developing countries to ensure the full and effective participation of women in deciding and implementing development strategies and integrating gender concerns into national programmes, inter alia, by providing adequate resources to operational activities for development in support of the efforts of Governments to ensure, inter alia, full and equal access of women to health care, capital, education, training and technology, as well as full and equal participation in all decision-making;

23. *Recognizes* that a substantial increase in official development assistance and other resources will be required if developing countries are to achieve the internationally agreed development goals and objectives, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[1] and that to build support for official

development assistance, cooperation will be needed in further improving policies and development strategies, both nationally and internationally, so as to enhance aid effectiveness;

24. *Urges* developed countries that have not yet done so to make concrete efforts towards the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product as official development assistance to developing countries and 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of gross national product of developed countries to least developed countries, as reconfirmed at the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, and encourages developing countries to build on progress achieved in ensuring that official development assistance is used effectively to help achieve development goals and targets, and also acknowledges the efforts of all donors, commends those donors whose official development assistance contributions exceed, reach or are increasing towards the targets, and underlines the importance of undertaking to examine the means and time frames for achieving the targets and goals;

25. *Encourages* the international community, the United Nations system, the private sector and civil society to continue to provide the necessary financial resources to assist national Governments in their efforts to meet the development targets and benchmarks agreed upon at the World Summit for Social Development, the Fourth World Conference on Women, the International Conference on Population and Development, the Millennium Summit, the International Conference on Financing for Development, the World Summit on Sustainable Development, the Second World Assembly on Ageing, the twenty-third and twenty-fourth special sessions of the General Assembly and other relevant United Nations conferences and summits;

26. *Encourages* the United Nations system and international and regional organizations, as appropriate, to assist Governments, at their request, in building institutional capacity and developing national action plans or further implementing existing action plans for the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action;

27. *Urges* Governments to create and maintain a non-discriminatory and gender-sensitive legal environment by reviewing legislation with a view to striving to remove discriminatory provisions as soon as possible, preferably by 2005, and eliminating legislative gaps that leave women and girls without protection of their rights and without effective recourse against gender-based discrimination, and encourages assistance to countries in achieving this aim;

28. *Urges* multilateral donors, and invites international financial institutions within their respective mandates and regional development banks, to review and implement policies to support national efforts to ensure that a higher proportion of resources reach women, in particular in rural and remote areas;

29. *Welcomes* the convening of the World Summit on the Information Society, to be held in Geneva in 2003 and in Tunis in 2005, and encourages Governments and all other stakeholders to integrate a gender perspective in the preparatory processes and outcome documents, taking into account the agreed conclusions on the participation in and access of women to the media, and information and communication technologies and their impact on and use as an instrument for the advancement and empowerment of women adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-seventh session and endorsed by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 2003/44 of 22 July 2003, and the above-mentioned report of the Secretary-General;

30. *Encourages* Governments, international organizations, including the United Nations system, the private sector and civil society to fully incorporate a gender perspective into the implementation of and follow-up to the World Summit on Sustainable Development and the International Conference on Financing for Development and to implement the specific recommendations on microfinance and microcredit for women and gender budget policies;

31. *Stresses* the importance of collecting all relevant information needed on the role of women in development and statistics disaggregated by sex by all countries, and encourages the relevant entities of the United Nations to support national efforts, especially those of developing countries, and, in this regard, invites developed countries, relevant entities of the United Nations and other international organizations to provide support and assistance to developing countries, upon their request, with respect to establishing, developing and strengthening their databases and information systems, and also encourages all Governments and international organizations, including the United Nations system, to collect information needed on the role of women in development and the disaggregation by sex of all statistics;

32. *Urges* all Governments and international organizations, including the United Nations system, to incorporate a gender perspective in their planning and evaluation, inter alia, in common country assessments, the United Nations Development Assistance Framework and poverty reduction strategy papers, where they exist;

33. *Encourages* the involvement, as appropriate, of relevant stakeholders, including the private sector and civil society, in mainstreaming a gender perspective in planning and evaluation;

34. *Calls upon* the United Nations system to integrate gender mainstreaming into all its programmes and policies, inter alia, in the integrated follow-up to United Nations conferences, in accordance with agreed conclusions 1997/2 on gender mainstreaming adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1997,[9] and welcomes the decision of the Council to devote one of the two themes of the coordination segment of its substantive session of 2004 to the review and appraisal of the system-wide implementation of those agreed conclusions;

35. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to update the *World Survey on the Role of Women in Development* for the consideration of the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session, noting that the survey should focus, as in the past, on selective emerging development issues that have an impact on the role of women in the economy at the national, regional and international levels;

36. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session a report on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution, including the impact of globalization on the empowerment of women and their integration in development;

37. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixtieth session the sub-item entitled "Women in development".

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[9] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/52/3/Rev.1), chap. IV.A, para. 4.

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Fifty-eighth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 98
Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006)

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Ms. Ulrika Cronenberg-Mossberg (Sweden), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/58/L.4

Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 47/196 of 22 December 1992, 48/183 of 21 December 1993, 50/107 of 20 December 1995, 56/207 of 21 December 2001 and 57/266 of 20 December 2002,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[1] adopted by heads of State and Government on the occasion of the Millennium Summit, and their commitment to eradicate extreme poverty and to halve, by 2015, the proportion of the world's people whose income is less than one dollar a day and the proportion of people who suffer from hunger,

Underlining the priority and urgency given by the heads of State and Government to the eradication of poverty, as expressed in the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development[2] and in the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development,[3]

Recalling the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

[1] See resolution 55/2.

[2] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[3] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex, and resolution 2, annex.

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Bearing in mind the outcomes of the World Summit for Social Development[4] and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly,[5]

Expressing its deep concern that the number of people living in extreme poverty in many countries continues to increase, with women and children constituting the majority and the most affected groups, in particular in the least developed countries and in sub-Saharan Africa,

Recognizing that, while the rate of poverty in some countries has been reduced, some developing countries and disadvantaged groups are being marginalized and others are at risk of being marginalized and effectively excluded from the benefits of globalization, resulting in increased income disparity among and within countries, thereby constraining efforts to eradicate poverty,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[6]

2. *Reiterates* that eradicating poverty is the greatest global challenge facing the world today and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, in particular for developing countries, that each country has the primary responsibility for its own sustainable development and poverty eradication and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized and that concerted and concrete measures are required at all levels to enable developing countries to eradicate poverty and achieve sustainable development;

3. *Recognizes* that, in order for developing countries to reach the targets set in the context of national development strategies for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[1] in particular the goal on the eradication of poverty, and for such poverty eradication strategies to be effective, it is imperative that they be integrated into the world economy and share equitably in the benefits of globalization;

4. *Reaffirms* that, within the context of overall action for the eradication of poverty, special attention should be given to the multidimensional nature of poverty and the national and international conditions and policies that are conducive to its eradication, fostering, inter alia, the social and economic integration of people living in poverty and the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, including the right to development;

Global response for the eradication of poverty

5. *Stresses* the importance of the follow-up to the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development, and calls for the full and effective implementation of the Monterrey Consensus;[2]

6. *Reaffirms* that: good governance at the international level is fundamental for achieving poverty eradication and sustainable development; in order to ensure a dynamic and enabling international economic environment, it is important to promote global economic governance through addressing the international finance, trade, technology and investment patterns that have an impact on the development

[4] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[5] Resolution S-24/2, annex.

[6] A/58/179.

prospects of developing countries; to that end, the international community should take all necessary and appropriate measures, including ensuring support to structural and macroeconomic reform, a comprehensive solution to the external debt problem and increasing market access for developing countries; efforts to reform the international financial architecture need to be sustained with greater transparency and with the effective participation of developing countries in decision-making processes; and that a universal, rule-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system, as well as meaningful trade liberalization, can substantially stimulate development worldwide, benefiting countries at all stages of development;

7. *Also reaffirms* that good governance at the national level is essential for poverty eradication and sustainable development, that sound economic policies, solid democratic institutions responsive to the needs of the people and improved infrastructure are the basis for sustained economic growth, poverty eradication and employment creation, and that freedom, peace and security, domestic stability, respect for human rights, including the right to development, the rule of law, gender equality, market-oriented policies and an overall commitment to just and democratic societies are also essential and mutually reinforcing;

8. *Recognizes* the major role that trade can play as an engine of growth and development and in eradicating poverty, regrets that the Fifth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, held in Cancun, Mexico, from 10 to 14 September 2003, failed to produce an agreement, and calls for resumption of the negotiations and the implementation of the Doha agenda, adopted at the Fourth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, held at Doha from 9 to 13 November 2001;[7]

9. *Recognizes* the responsibility of all Governments to adopt policies aimed at preventing and combating corrupt practices at the national and international levels, and welcomes in this regard, the adoption of the United Nations Convention against Corruption;[8]

10. *Underlines* that, together with coherent and consistent domestic policies, international cooperation is essential in supplementing and supporting the efforts of developing countries to utilize their domestic resources for development and poverty eradication and in ensuring that they will be able to achieve the development goals as envisioned in the Millennium Declaration;

11. *Reiterates* that a substantial increase in official development assistance and other resources will be required if developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, are to achieve the internationally agreed development goals and objectives, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, and that to build support for official development assistance, cooperation is necessary to further improve policies and development strategies to enhance aid effectiveness, both nationally and internationally, requests, in that regard, those countries that made announcements of increased official development assistance at the International Conference on Financing for Development to make those resources available as soon as possible, and notes in this context, the recent upward trend in official development assistance;

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[7] A/C.2/56/7, annex.

[8] Resolution 58/4.

12. *Urges* developed countries that have not done so to make concrete efforts to reach the targets of 0.7 per cent of their gross national product as official development assistance to developing countries and 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of their gross national product to least developed countries, as reconfirmed at the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held in Brussels from 14 to 20 May 2001,[9] encourages developing countries to build on progress achieved in ensuring that official development assistance is used effectively to help achieve development goals and targets, acknowledges the efforts of all donors, commends those donors whose official development assistance contributions exceed, reach or are increasing towards the targets, and underlines the importance of undertaking to examine the means and time frames for achieving the targets and goals;

13. *Recognizes* that an enabling domestic environment is vital for mobilizing domestic resources, increasing productivity, reducing capital flight, encouraging the private sector and attracting and making effective use of international investment and assistance and that efforts to create such an environment should be supported by the international community;

14. *Recognizes also* that creditors and debtors must share the responsibility for preventing and resolving unsustainable debt situations and that debt relief can play a key role in liberating resources that should be directed towards activities consistent with attaining poverty eradication, sustainable economic growth, sustainable development and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, and in that regard urges countries to direct those resources freed through debt relief, in particular through debt cancellation and reduction, towards these objectives;

15. *Calls upon* the developed countries, by means of intensified and effective cooperation with developing countries, to promote capacity-building and facilitate access to and transfer of technologies and corresponding knowledge, in particular to developing countries, on favourable terms, including concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed, taking into account the need to protect intellectual property rights, as well as the special needs of developing countries;

16. *Recognizes* the crucial role that microcredit and microfinance could play in the eradication of poverty, the promotion of gender equality, the empowerment of vulnerable groups and the development of rural communities, encourages Governments to adopt policies that support access to microcredit as well as the development of microfinance institutions and their capacities, and calls upon the international community to support those efforts;

Policies for the eradication of poverty

17. *Reaffirms* that the eradication of poverty should be addressed in an integrated way, as set out in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[10] taking into account the importance of the need for the empowerment of women and sectoral strategies in such areas as, inter alia, education, development of human resources,

[9] See A/CONF.191/11.

[10] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

health, human settlements, rural, local and community development, productive employment, population, environment and natural resources, water and sanitation, agriculture, food security, energy and migration, and the specific needs of disadvantaged and vulnerable groups, in such a way as to increase opportunities and choices for people living in poverty and to enable them to build and strengthen their assets so as to achieve development, security and stability, and in that regard encourages countries to develop their national poverty reduction policies in accordance with their national priorities, including, where appropriate, through poverty reduction strategy papers;

18. *Underlines* in this context the importance of further integration of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, in the national development strategies and plans, including the poverty reduction strategy papers where they exist, and calls upon the international community to continue to support developing countries in the implementation of these development strategies and plans;

19. *Recognizes* the importance of disseminating best practices for the reduction of poverty in its various dimensions, taking into account the need to adapt those best practices to suit the social, economic, cultural and historical conditions of each country;

20. *Reaffirms* that all Governments and the United Nations system should promote an active and visible policy of mainstreaming a gender perspective in all policies and programmes aimed at the eradication of poverty, at both the national and international levels, and encourages the use of gender analysis as a tool for the integration of a gender dimension into planning the implementation of policies, strategies and programmes for the eradication of poverty;

21. *Reaffirms also* that poverty eradication, changing unsustainable patterns of production and consumption and protecting and managing the natural resource base of economic and social development are overarching objectives of, and essential requirements for, sustainable development;

22. *Emphasizes* the critical role of both formal and non-formal education, in particular basic education and training, especially for girls, in empowering those living in poverty, reaffirms in that context the Dakar Framework for Action adopted at the World Education Forum,[11] and recognizes the importance of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization strategy for the eradication of poverty, especially extreme poverty, in supporting the Education For All programmes as a tool to achieve the Millennium Development Goal on universal primary education by 2015;

23. *Recognizes* the devastating effect of HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis and other infectious, contagious diseases on human development, economic growth and poverty reduction efforts in all regions, in particular in sub-Saharan Africa, urges Governments and the international community to give urgent priority to combating those diseases, takes note of the convening of the fifteenth International Conference on HIV/AIDS, to be held in Thailand in 2004, and in that regard welcomes the recent decision adopted by members of the World Trade Organization on the

[11] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Final Report of the World Education Forum, Dakar, Senegal, 26-28 April 2000*, Paris, 2000.

implementation of paragraph 6 of the Doha Declaration on the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights and Public Health;[12]

24. *Emphasizes* the link between poverty eradication and improving access to safe drinking water, and stresses in that regard the objective to halve, by 2015, the proportion of people who are unable to reach or to afford safe drinking water and the proportion of people who do not have access to basic sanitation, as reaffirmed in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

25. *Recognizes* that the lack of adequate housing remains a pressing challenge in the fight to eradicate extreme poverty, particularly in the urban areas in developing countries, expresses its concern at the rapid growth in the number of slum dwellers in the urban areas of developing countries, particularly in Africa, stresses that unless urgent and effective measures and actions are taken at the national and international levels, the number of slum dwellers, who constitute one third of the world's urban population, will continue to increase, and emphasizes the need for increased efforts, with a view to significantly improving the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers by 2020;

Specific initiatives in the fight against poverty

26. *Recognizes also* the important potential contribution of the World Solidarity Fund to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, in particular the objective to halve, by 2015, the proportion of people living on less than one dollar a day and the proportion of the people who suffer from hunger;

27. *Reiterates* its endorsement of the decision of the World Summit on Sustainable Development to establish the World Solidarity Fund to eradicate poverty and to promote social and human development in the developing countries, while stressing the voluntary nature of the contributions and the need to avoid duplication of existing United Nations funds and encouraging the role of the private sector and individual citizens relative to Governments in funding the endeavours, as set out in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

28. *Encourages* Member States, international organizations, the private sector, relevant institutions, foundations and individuals to contribute to the World Solidarity Fund;

29. *Requests* the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, in that regard, to take further measures to operationalize the World Solidarity Fund by establishing, on an urgent basis, the high-level committee whose task it is to define the strategy of the Fund and to mobilize resources to enable it to start its activities in the field of poverty alleviation;

30. *Acknowledges* the significance of greater involvement of developing countries in joint efforts, including those among developing countries, to overcome extreme poverty, and in this context takes note of the initiatives undertaken by the developing countries, including those announced at the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly;

31. *Welcomes* the initiatives undertaken by regional and subregional organizations for overcoming extreme poverty;

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[12] WT/MIN (01)/DEC/2. Available on the Internet at http://docsonline.wto.org.

Africa, landlocked developing countries and small island developing countries

32. *Stresses the importance*, as recognized in the Millennium Declaration, of meeting the special needs of Africa, where poverty remains a major challenge and where most countries have not benefited fully from the opportunities of globalization, which has further exacerbated the continent's marginalization;

33. *Reaffirms* its support to the New Partnership for Africa's Development,[13] encourages further efforts in the implementation of the commitments contained therein in the political, economic and social fields, and calls upon the developed countries and the United Nations system to continue to support the New Partnership, the primary objective of which is to eradicate poverty and promote sustainable development on the basis of African ownership and leadership and enhanced partnership with the international community, in accordance with its principles, objectives and priorities;

34. *Calls upon* the Governments of the least developed countries and their development partners to implement fully the commitments contained in the Brussels Declaration[14] and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010,[15] adopted at the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries;

35. *Stresses* the significant challenge to poverty reduction posed by the geographical disadvantages of landlocked developing countries and the vulnerabilities of small island developing States, and in this context welcomes the adoption of the Almaty Programme of Action,[16] at the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation, held at Almaty on 28 and 29 August 2003, and supports the comprehensive review of the implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[17] to be held in Mauritius in 2004;

The United Nations and the fight against poverty

36. *Calls for* the full implementation of its resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003 on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields, which provides a comprehensive basis for the follow-up to the outcomes of those conferences and summits and contributes to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, in particular, the eradication of poverty and hunger, and notes in that context the decision to review in 2005 the progress achieved in implementing all commitments made in the Millennium Declaration;

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[13] A/57/304, annex.

[14] A/CONF.191/12.

[15] A/CONF.191/11.

[16] A/CONF.203/3, annex I.

[17] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April-6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

37. *Reaffirms* the role of United Nations funds and programmes, in particular the United Nations Development Programme and its associated funds, in assisting the national efforts of developing countries, inter alia, in the eradication of poverty and the need for their funding in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

38. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

39. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the item entitled "Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006)".

United Nations A/C.2/58/L.67

General Assembly

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10 December 2003

Original: English

Fifty-eighth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 94 (e)
Environment and sustainable development: International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mrs. Irena Zubčević (Croatia), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/58/L.25

Natural disasters and vulnerability

The General Assembly,

Recalling its decision 57/547 of 20 December 2002,

Taking into account the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[1] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[2]

Recognizing the need to continue to develop an understanding of, and to address, socio-economic activities that exacerbate the vulnerability of societies to natural disasters and to build and further strengthen community capacity to cope with disaster risks,

Noting that the global environment continues to suffer degradation, adding to economic and social vulnerabilities, and thus creating additional vulnerabilities, in particular of developing countries,

Taking into account the various ways and forms in which all countries, in particular the more vulnerable developing countries, are affected by severe natural hazards, such as earthquakes, volcanic eruptions and extreme weather events such as heatwaves, severe droughts, floods and storms, and the El Niño/La Niña phenomenon, which have global reach,

Expressing deep concern at the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events and associated natural disasters,

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[1] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[2] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

03-64566 (E) 101203

Expressing deep concern also at the enormous negative impact of severe natural hazards, including extreme weather events and associated natural disasters, which continues to hinder social and economic progress, in particular of developing countries,

Reiterating that, although natural disasters damage the social and economic infrastructure of all countries, the long-term consequences of natural disasters are especially severe in developing countries and hamper the achievement of their sustainable development,

Stressing that national authorities need to undertake disaster preparedness and mitigation efforts, in particular through the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, so as to enhance the resilience of populations to disasters and reduce the risks to them, their livelihoods, the social and economic infrastructure and environmental resources,

Recalling that the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction provides a framework for collaboration on the development of methodologies to systematically characterize, measure, assess and respond to natural disasters, including weather-related disasters, hazards and vulnerabilities,

Taking into account the fact that extreme weather events and associated natural disasters and their reduction must be dealt with in a coherent manner,

Noting the need for international cooperation to increase countries' capacity to respond to the negative impacts of all natural hazards, including extreme weather events and associated natural disasters, particularly in developing countries,

Emphasizing the importance of raising awareness among developing countries of the capacities existing at the national, regional and international levels that could be deployed to assist them,

Noting the outcome of the Second International Conference on Early Warning (EWC II), held in Bonn, Germany, from 16 to 18 October 2003,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction,[3] in particular the section therein on the negative impacts of extreme weather events and associated natural disasters on vulnerable countries, in particular developing countries, as requested by the General Assembly in its decision 57/547 of 20 December 2002;

2. *Urges* the international community to continue to address ways and means, inter alia, through cooperation and technical assistance, to reduce the adverse effects of natural disasters, including those caused by extreme weather events, in particular in vulnerable developing countries, through the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, and encourages the Inter-Agency Task Force for Disaster Reduction to continue its work in this regard;

3. *Encourages* Governments to establish effective national platforms or focal points for disaster reduction, and to strengthen them where they already exist;

4. *Also encourages* Governments, in cooperation with the United Nations system and other stakeholders, to strengthen capacity-building in the most vulnerable regions, so as to enable them to address the socio-economic factors that

[3] A/58/277.

increase vulnerability, and encourages the international community to provide effective assistance to developing countries in this regard;

5. *Encourages* the Inter-Agency Task Force for Disaster Reduction to enhance the coordination on the promotion of disaster reduction as well as to make available to the relevant United Nations entities information on options for natural disaster reduction, including severe natural hazards and extreme weather-related disasters and vulnerabilities;

6. *Encourages* the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[4] and the parties to the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[5] to continue to address the adverse effects of climate change, especially in those developing countries that are particularly vulnerable, in accordance with the provisions of the Convention, and encourages the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change to continue to assess the adverse effects of climate change on the socio-economic and natural disaster reduction systems of developing countries;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution in a separate section of his report on the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, and decides to consider the issue of natural disasters and vulnerability at that session, under the sub-item entitled "International Strategy for Disaster Reduction" of the item entitled "Environment and sustainable development".

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[4] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[5] FCCC/CP/1997/7/Add.1, decision 1/CP.3, annex.

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General Assembly

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Fifty-eighth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 102
Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Ms. Ulrika Cronenberg-Mossberg (Sweden), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/58/L.34

Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/279 of 12 July 2001, in which it endorsed the Brussels Declaration[1] and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010,[2] and its resolution 57/276 of 20 December 2002 on the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries,

Reaffirming its resolution 55/2 of 8 September 2000, by which it adopted the Millennium Declaration, in particular its paragraph 15 in which the heads of State and Government undertook to address the special needs of the least developed countries,

Recalling Economic and Social Council decision 2001/320 of 24 October 2001, in which it decided to establish a regular sub-item entitled "Review and coordination of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010",

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 2003/17 of 22 July 2003, in which the Council took note of the progress report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries,[3]

Taking note of Economic and Social Council decision 2003/287 of 24 July 2003, in which the Council adopted the theme "Resources mobilization and enabling

[1] A/CONF.191/12.
[2] A/CONF.191/11.
[3] A/58/86-E/2003/81.

03-64891 (E) 111203

environment for poverty eradication in the context of the implementation of the Brussels Programme of Action for Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010", as the theme of its high-level segment of 2004,

Taking note also of the report of the Secretary-General,[1]

1. *Expresses its deep concern* over the weak implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010,[2] and expresses its expectation of more vigorous implementation by all partners;

2. *Reiterates* that the Programme of Action offers a framework for partnership, based on mutual commitments by least developed countries and their developed partners to undertake concrete actions in a number of interlinked areas set out in the Programme of Action;

3. *Calls on* the least developed countries to continue, with the support of their development partners, to fulfil their commitments and to promote the implementation of the actions contained in the Programme of Action by translating them into specific measures within their national development frameworks and poverty eradication strategies, in particular poverty reduction strategy papers, where they exist, with the involvement of civil society, including the private sector, on the basis of a broad-based inclusive dialogue, as well as to continue to promote an enabling environment for the effective mobilization and utilization of resources consistent with paragraph 82 of the Programme of Action;

4. *Calls on* the development partners of the least developed countries, including multilateral financial institutions, to fulfil their commitments regarding the effective and expeditious implementation of the Programme of Action and urges the developed countries that have not yet done so to make concrete efforts to effectively implement their commitments on official development assistance to the least developed countries, as contained in paragraph 83 of the Programme of Action;

5. *Urges* the least developed countries and their development partners to make the Programme of Action an effective tool for the implementation of the poverty reduction strategies at the national level for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration;

6. *Invites* the United Nations system, including the Bretton Woods institutions and all other international organizations, within their respective mandates, to support, as a priority, the implementation of the Programme of Action, including programmes of financial and technical cooperation devoted to the least developed countries in support of their national development programmes, including their poverty reduction strategies;

7. *Stresses* the need for the effective implementation of the Programme of Action and its annual assessment at the substantive session of the Economic and Social Council, and recognizes in this regard the critical importance of the participation of the least developed countries in the assessment process of the Programme of Action;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take appropriate measures to facilitate the participation of government representatives from the least developed countries in the annual assessment of the Brussels Programme of Action by the Economic and Social Council for the Decade 2001-2010 within the context of the overall financial

provisions established by the General Assembly in its resolution 1798 (XVII) of 11 December 1962 and subsequent amendments;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to take appropriate measures, within existing resources and with the full participation of regional economic commissions and relevant United Nations bodies, to support the participation of the least developed countries in international meetings, as well as in their preparation and consultation processes;

10. *Emphasizes* the importance of coordinating action within the United Nations system for the implementation of the Programme of Action, and calls on the Secretary-General to take appropriate measures to ensure the efficiency and effectiveness of the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States to fulfil its functions in accordance with its resolution 56/227 of 24 December 2001;

11. *Calls on* the Secretary-General to submit, through the Economic and Social Council, an annual progress report on the implementation of the Programme of Action in a more analytical and results-oriented way by placing greater emphasis on concrete results and indicating the progress achieved in its implementation.

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General Assembly

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Fifty-eighth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 91 (b)
Macroeconomic policy questions: science and technology for development

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Henri S. Raubenheimer (South Africa), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/58/L.20

Science and technology for development

The General Assembly,

Recognizing the role that international cooperation on science and technology can play in addressing the technological gap and the digital divide between the North and the South,

Recognizing also the importance of North-South as well as South-South cooperation in the field of science and technology,

Recognizing further the vital role of new and emerging technologies in raising the productivity and competitiveness of nations and the need, inter alia, for capacity-building, measures promoting the transfer and diffusion of technologies to developing countries, and promotion of private sector activities and public awareness of science and technology,

Reaffirming the need to enhance the science and technology activities of the organizations of the United Nations system and the role of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development in providing policy guidance, in particular on issues of relevance to developing countries,

Recognizing the role of information and communication technologies in promoting development as an important step towards addressing the challenges of bridging the digital divide and, in this regard, welcoming the World Summit on the Information Society, to be held in Geneva in 2003 and Tunis in 2005,

Welcoming the Commission's selection of the substantive theme "Promoting the application of science and technology to meet the development goals[1] contained

[1] A/58/76.

03-64839 (E) 111203

in the United Nations Millennium Declaration", for its work during the intersessional period 2003-2004, as welcomed by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 2003/56 of 24 July 2003,

Noting with appreciation the Commission's work during its intersessional period 2001-2003 on its theme "Technology development and capacity-building for competitiveness in a digital society", in particular the information and communication technologies development indices, which serve as an important contribution to the preparation of the World Summit on the Information Society,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the impact of new biotechnologies, with particular attention to sustainable development, including food security, health and economic productivity,[1]

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 2003/56, in which the Council invited the Commission to interact closely with the Information and Communication Technologies Task Force to promote greater information exchange and coordination of activities in the field of information and communication technologies in order to contribute to the World Summit on the Information Society,

1. *Urges* the relevant bodies of the United Nations system engaged in biotechnology to work cooperatively so as to ensure that countries receive sound scientific information and practical advice to enable them to take advantage of these technologies, as appropriate, to promote economic growth and development;

2. *Takes note* of the proposal of the Secretary-General for an integrated framework for biotechnology development within the United Nations system, as contained in his report on the impact of new biotechnologies, with particular attention to sustainable development, including food security, health and economic productivity,[1] and requests him to report further on the status of coordination between the relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system with a view to strengthening coordination of activities in the area of biotechnology, in particular in the promotion of biotechnology within the United Nations system;

3. *Also takes note* of the publication entitled *Information and Communication Technology Development Indices*[2] and invites the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in collaboration with the Information and Communication Technologies Task Force and the International Telecommunication Union to update this publication as part of its contribution to the World Summit on the Information Society, recalling General Assembly resolution 56/183 of 21 December 2001 in which the Assembly encouraged effective contributions from and the active participation of all relevant United Nations bodies;

4. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that the Commission and its secretariat within the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development are provided with the necessary resources to enable it to better carry out its mandate;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session.

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[2] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.D.14.

United Nations A/C.2/58/L.70

General Assembly

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Fifty-eighth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 96
United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Ms. Irena Zubčević (Croatia), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/58/L.13

United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development

The General Assembly,

Recalling chapter 36 of Agenda 21, on promoting education, public awareness and training, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 1992,[1]

Recalling also the relevant provisions of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation on education, in particular its provision 124 (d) on the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development,[2]

Recalling further its resolution 57/254,

Reaffirming the internationally agreed development goal of achieving universal primary education, in particular that by 2015 children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling,

Taking note of the report of the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development,

Welcoming the fact that the Commission on Sustainable Development, at its eleventh session, identified education as one of the cross-cutting issues of its multi-year programme of work,

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[1] See *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June* 1992 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[2] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

03-62550 (E) 101203

Emphasizing that education is an indispensable element for achieving sustainable development,

1. *Takes note* of the Framework for a Draft International Implementation Scheme prepared by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, requests the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, as the designated lead agency, to promote the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development, in coordination with other relevant United Nations agencies and programmes, and further requests it to finalize the international implementation scheme, while clarifying its relationship with the existing educational processes, in particular the Dakar Framework for Action[3] and the United Nations Literacy Decade,[4] in consultation with the United Nations and other relevant international organizations, Governments, non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders;

2. *Reaffirms* that education for sustainable development is critical for promoting sustainable development, and in this regard encourages Governments to consider the inclusion of measures to implement the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development in their respective educational strategies and national development plans by 2005;

3. *Invites* Governments to promote public awareness of and wider participation in the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development, including through cooperation and initiatives engaging civil society and other relevant stakeholders;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session, under the item entitled "Environment and sustainable development", a sub-item entitled "United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development".

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[3] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Final Report of the World Education Forum, Dakar, Senegal, 26-28 April 2000* (Paris, 2000).

[4] See resolution 56/116.

United Nations A/C.2/58/L.71

General Assembly

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Fifty-eighth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 97 (b)
Operational activities for development: economic and technical cooperation among developing countries

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Ms. Ulrika Cronenberg-Mossberg (Sweden), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/58/L.24

Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries

The General Assembly,

Stressing that South-South cooperation, as an important element of international cooperation for development, offers viable opportunities for developing countries and countries with economies in transition in their individual and collective pursuit of sustained economic growth and sustainable development,

Recognizing that developing countries have the primary responsibility for promoting and implementing South-South cooperation, not as a substitute for but rather as a complement to North-South cooperation, and in this context reiterating the need for the international community to support the efforts of the developing countries to expand South-South cooperation,

Taking note of the Ministerial Declaration adopted by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States members of the Group of 77 at their twenty-seventh annual meeting, held in New York on 25 September 2003,[1] in which the increased importance and relevance of South-South cooperation were re-emphasized,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries on its thirteenth session[2] and endorses the decisions adopted by the High-level Committee at that session,[3] and decides to change the name of the Committee to High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation with no change in its mandate or in the scope of its activities;

[1] A/58/413, annex.
[2] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 39* (A/58/39).
[3] Ibid., annex I.

2. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the state of South-South cooperation[4] and on raising public awareness of and support for South-South cooperation;[5]

3. *Reaffirms* the need to strengthen further, within its available resources, the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation as a separate entity and a focal point for South-South cooperation within the United Nations system, and recognizes that its activities should be perceived as an integral part of the overall development policy of the United Nations system and the United Nations Development Programme, and, in this context, calls upon United Nations funds and programmes and other entities of the United Nations development system to intensify efforts to mainstream technical and economic cooperation among developing countries by using relevant national, regional and international mechanisms in consultation with Member States;

4. *Notes with interest* that South-South cooperation can have a positive impact on global, regional and national policies and actions in the economic, social and development fields in the developing countries, and urges developing countries and their partners to intensify South-South and triangular cooperation in these areas, as they contribute to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration;[6]

5. *Recognizes* that regional integration initiatives between developing countries constitute an important and valuable form of South-South cooperation and that regional integration is a step towards beneficial integration into the world economy;

6. *Also recognizes* the urgent need to help strengthen the capacities of the developing countries, especially the least developed countries, to participate in and benefit from globalization and liberalization processes and, to this end, welcomes the initiatives being undertaken at the subregional, regional, interregional and global levels towards establishing public-private partnership mechanisms aiming to enhance and expand South-South cooperation in trade and investment and, in this context, notes the initiatives of the World Trade Forum;

7. *Reiterates* the urgent need to help strengthen institutions and centres of excellence in the South, especially at the regional and interregional levels, with a view to making more effective use of such entities towards improved South-South knowledge-sharing, networking, capacity-building, information and best practices exchanges, policy analysis and coordinated action among developing countries on major issues of common concern and, in this context, encourages such institutions and centres of excellence as well as regional and subregional economic groupings to establish closer links and bridges among themselves, inter alia, through the Web of Information for Development of the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation of the United Nations Development Programme;

8. *Notes with interest* the holding of the High-level Conference on South-South Cooperation, in Marrakesh, Morocco, from 15 to 19 December 2003, and calls upon developing countries, and encourages their development partners and relevant international organizations, to participate actively in the Conference in

[4] A/58/319.

[5] A/58/345.

[6] See resolution 55/2.

order to ensure its success and increase the momentum and intensity of South-South cooperation;

9. *Urges* all relevant United Nations organizations and multilateral institutions to intensify their efforts effectively to mainstream the use of South-South cooperation in the design, formulation and implementation of their regular programmes and to consider increasing allocations of human, technical and financial resources for supporting South-South cooperation initiatives and, in this regard, takes note of those contained in the Havana Programme of Action adopted by the first South Summit[7] and the follow-up of the High-level Conference on South-South Cooperation in Marrakesh, as well as the preparation for the second South Summit in 2005;

10. *Recognizes* the need to mobilize additional resources for enhancing South-South cooperation, reiterates in this context its decision taken in resolution 57/263 of 20 December 2002 to include the Voluntary Trust Fund for the Promotion of South-South Cooperation in the United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities, as long as it exists and, in the same manner, decides to include the Pérez-Guerrero Trust Fund for Economic and Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries in the same Pledging Conference, and invites all countries, in particular developed countries, to support South-South and triangular cooperation through, inter alia, these funds, bearing in mind the need for these funds to continue to use such resources in an effective manner;

11. *Decides* to declare 19 December, the date on which the General Assembly endorsed the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries,[8] as the United Nations Day for South-South Cooperation;

12. *Also decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixtieth session a sub-item entitled "South-South cooperation for development", and requests the Secretary-General to [report comprehensively] [submit to it] at that session [a comprehensive report] on the state of South-South cooperation and on the implementation of the present resolution.

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[7] A/55/74, annex II.

[8] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, Buenos Aires, 30 August-12 September 1978* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.70.II.A.11 and corrigendum), chap. I.

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Environment and sustainable development: International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Ms. Irena Zubčević (Croatia), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/58/L.10

International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 44/236 of 22 December 1989, 49/22 A of 2 December 1994, 49/22 B of 20 December 1994, 53/185 of 15 December 1998, 54/219 of 22 December 1999, 56/195 of 21 December 2001 and 57/256 of 20 December 2002 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/63 of 30 July 1999, taking note of Council resolution 2001/35 of 26 July 2001, and taking into due consideration its resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003 on integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

Recalling also the inclusion of "disaster management and vulnerability" in the multi-year programme of work of the Commission on Sustainable Development,

Emphasizing that disaster reduction, including reducing vulnerability to natural disasters, is an important element that contributes to the achievement of sustainable development,

Noting the relevant provisions of the Ministerial Declaration of the Ministerial Conference of the Third World Water Forum, held at Kyoto, Japan, on 22 and 23 March 2003, on water-related disasters,

Reiterating that, although natural disasters damage the social and economic infrastructure of all countries, the long-term consequences of natural disasters are especially severe for developing countries and hamper the achievement of their sustainable development,

Recognizing the urgent need to further develop and make use of the existing scientific and technical knowledge to reduce vulnerability to natural disasters, and

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emphasizing the need for developing countries to have access to technology so as to tackle natural disasters effectively,

Expressing its deep concern at the number and scale of natural disasters and their increasing impact within recent years, which have resulted in massive loss of life and long-term negative social, economic and environmental consequences for vulnerable societies throughout the world, in particular in developing countries,

Recognizing the need to continue to develop an understanding of, and to address, socio-economic activities that exacerbate the vulnerability of societies to natural disasters and to build and strengthen further community capability to cope with disaster risks,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction;[1]

2. *Invites* Governments and relevant international organizations to consider disaster risk assessment as an integral component of development plans and poverty eradication programmes;

3. *Stresses* that continued cooperation and coordination among Governments, the United Nations system, other international organizations, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations and other partners, as appropriate, are considered essential to address effectively the impact of natural disasters;

4. *Recognizes* the importance of linking disaster risk management to regional frameworks, as appropriate, such as with the New Partnership for Africa's Development,[2] to address issues of poverty eradication and sustainable development;

5. *Also recognizes* the importance of integrating a gender perspective as well as of engaging women in the design and implementation of all phases of disaster management, particularly in the disaster reduction stage;

6. *Further recognizes* the importance of early warning as an essential element of disaster reduction, and recommends the implementation of the outcome of the Second International Conference on Early Warning, held at Bonn, Germany, from 16 to 18 October 2003, which has highlighted the importance of strengthened coordination and cooperation to integrate activities and expertise of the various sectors involved in the early warning process and has contributed to the review of the Yokohama Strategy for a Safer World: Guidelines for Natural Disaster Prevention, Preparedness and Mitigation and its Plan of Action;[3]

7. *Decides* to convene a World Conference on Disaster Reduction in 2005, at the senior-official level, designed to foster specialized discussions and produce concrete changes and results, with the following objectives:

(a) To conclude the review of the Yokohama Strategy and its Plan of Action, with a view to updating the guiding framework on disaster reduction for the twenty-first century;

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[1] A/58/277.

[2] A/57/304, annex.

[3] A/CONF.172/9, chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

(b) To identify specific activities aimed at ensuring the implementation of relevant provisions of the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation")[4] on vulnerability, risk assessment and disaster management;

(c) To share best practices and lessons learned to further disaster reduction within the context of attaining sustainable development and identify gaps and challenges;

(d) To increase awareness of the importance of disaster reduction policies, thereby facilitating and promoting the implementation of those policies;

(e) To increase the reliability and availability of appropriate disaster-related information to the public and disaster management agencies in all regions, as set out in the relevant provisions of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

8. *Accepts with deep appreciation* the generous offer of the Government of Japan to host the Conference, and decides that the Conference will be held at Kobe, Japan, from 18 to 22 January 2005;

9. *Decides* to establish an open-ended intergovernmental preparatory committee for the Conference to review the organizational and substantive preparations for the Conference, to approve the programme of work of the Conference and to propose rules of procedure for adoption by the Conference, and also decides that the preparatory committee will meet at Geneva following the 2004 semi-annual sessions of the Inter-Agency Task Force for Disaster Reduction, for up to two days each time, and that the preparatory committee will hold a one-day meeting at Kobe within the dates mentioned in paragraph 8 above, as necessary;

10. *Also decides* that the intergovernmental preparatory committee will have a bureau consisting of five representatives of Member States elected on the basis of equitable geographical representation;

11. *Invites* regional groups to nominate their candidates for the bureau of the preparatory committee by the end of January 2004, so that they can be involved in the preparations for the first meeting of the preparatory committee, and to notify the secretariat of the Conference of those nominations;

12. *Requests* the inter-agency secretariat for the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction to serve as the secretariat of the Conference and to coordinate preparatory activities, the costs of which will be funded extrabudgetarily through the Trust Fund for the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction and in close cooperation with the host country and the preparatory committee for the Conference, with the full support of the relevant departments of the Secretariat;

13. *Understands* that the activities set out in paragraph 12 above will not hinder the other existing work and priorities of the inter-agency secretariat for the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction;

14. *Invites* Member States, all United Nations bodies and specialized agencies and other relevant intergovernmental agencies and organizations, in

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[4] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

particular the members of the Inter-Agency Task Force for Disaster Reduction, to participate actively in the Conference, as well as its preparatory process;

15. *Welcomes* contributions from all regions that could provide substantive inputs to the preparatory process and the Conference itself;

16. *Encourages* effective contributions from major groups, as identified in Agenda 21,[5] invites them to seek accreditation to the Conference and its preparatory process, and decides that their accreditation and participation will be in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Commission on Sustainable Development and the rules of procedure of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and the established practice of the Commission on the participation and engagement of major groups;

17. *Decides* that the actual additional costs of the preparatory process and the Conference itself should be funded through extrabudgetary resources, without negatively affecting programmed activities, and through specific voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund for the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction;

18. *Requests* the United Nations Secretariat to provide conference services for the preparatory process and the Conference itself, the costs thereof to be borne by the host country, on the understanding that the Secretariat will ensure that its existing human resources are utilized to the maximum extent possible without further charge to the host country;

19. *Encourages* the international community to provide the necessary financial resources to the Trust Fund for the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction and to provide the necessary scientific, technical, human and other resources to ensure adequate support for the activities of the inter-agency secretariat for the Strategy and the Inter-Agency Task Force for Disaster Reduction and its working groups, as well as to facilitate the preparations for the Conference;

20. *Expresses its appreciation* to those countries that have provided financial support for the activities of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction by making voluntary contributions to its Trust Fund;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to allocate adequate financial and administrative resources, within existing resources, for the effective functioning of the inter-agency secretariat for the Strategy;

22. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, in particular on the state of preparations for the World Conference, under the item entitled "Environment and sustainable development".

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[5] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.